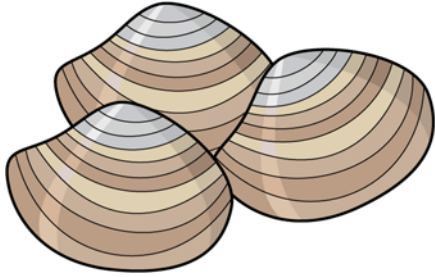


Name _____



The Mystery of the Glittering Clams

In the charming seaside town of Clearwater, there was a special beach known for its sparkling, glittering clams. The clams were famous because each one contained a unique, colorful pearl. Kids from all over came to collect these special clams.

One bright morning, three friends named Clara, Cliff, and Chloe decided to spend the day at Clearwater Beach. Clara was a clever girl with a curious mind, Cliff was a brave boy who loved adventures, and Chloe was cheerful and always full of giggles.

As they walked along the beach, Clara spotted something unusual. "Look, there are clams clustered together in a strange pattern," she said, pointing to a spot near the cliffs. The clams were arranged in a perfect circle.

Cliff, always ready for a challenge, said, "Let's investigate! Maybe there's a hidden treasure." The friends approached the circle of clams. Chloe noticed a clear, glass bottle in the middle of the circle. "There's something inside the bottle," she said, giggling with excitement.

Clara carefully opened the bottle and pulled out a rolled-up piece of paper. It was a map! The map showed a path leading from the circle of clams to a place called Crystal Cove. "Crystal Cove is just around the cliffs," Cliff said. "Let's follow the map and see where it leads."

The trio followed the path marked on the map, climbing over rocks and through clusters of seagrass. When they reached Crystal Cove, they saw a large rock shaped like a clam. At the base of the rock, there was a small, locked chest. Clara examined the chest and said, "We need a key to open it. Let's look around for clues." They searched the cove and soon found a clue carved into a wooden sign: "Under the clearest water, where the sunlight dances, the key will be found."

The friends looked at the clear water near the shore. Cliff, who was an excellent swimmer, dove into the water. After a few moments, he surfaced with a golden key in his hand. Chloe clapped her hands and said, "You found it, Cliff!"

Clara used the key to unlock the chest. Inside, they found the most beautiful collection of glittering clams they had ever seen, each with a unique, colorful pearl inside. There was also a note that read, "To the clever kids who found this treasure, may your days be filled with adventure and joy."

The friends cheered and hugged each other, excited about their discovery. They took the glittering clams back to town, sharing their adventure with everyone in Clearwater.

